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## CHINA WELFARE SOCIETY

1952 Jen-min Shou-ts'e (People's Handbook)

Since its founding about 14 years ago, the China Welfare Association has been led by Madame Sun Yat-sen, foremost Chinese leader in the struggle for peace. The forerunner of the society was the China Defense League (Chung-kuo Pao-wei Ta-t'ung-meng), organized in June 1938 at Hong Kong. The main mission of this league was to unite on an international scale all progressive people and organizations and to raise funds and materials to support anti-Japanese struggle, particularly the Eighth Route Army and the guerrilla bases behind the enemy's lines which were under the guidance of the Chinese Communist Party.

In 1941, the league moved to Chungking to continue its work and was successful in establishing an International Peace Hospital and a Children's Nursery in the liberated areas. During the demobilization period in 1945, the league was renamed the Chinese Welfare Fund Society (Chung-kuo Fu-li Chi-chinhui). In addition to raising runds to help the liberated areas, this society continued to render aid to the sick and destitute writers of Shanghai, to assist progressive organizations, and to promote children's health and literacy movements.

As a result of the victory of the Chinese people, the people's enterprises were given the opportunity to expand their activities under the hegemony of the Chinese Communist Party and the people's governments. Accordingly, an announcement was made on 15 August 1950 by Madame Sun Yat-sen changing the name to the China Welfare Society, and establishing it as a permanent organization.

Much progress has been made by this society during the past 2 years and its present work ranges from health services for women and children to children's art and culture. Maternity and infant care, children's health services, and aid to women laborers are some of the services now being rendered. Among its accomplishments is the setting up of two health clinics for the working couples of the west Shanghai factory area. These clinics are now engaged in promoting health education among women and children, offering prenatal and postnatal examinations to women, delivering babies, and giving health examinations. The infant numeries of this society have accepted infants of 60 model workers and cadres for care, while the day nurseries of this society are currently handling children of 200 cadres and working women each day.

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The Erh-t'ung Shih-tai (Childrer's Era) Publishing Association has published over 50 issues of <a href="Erh-t'ung Shih-tai">Erh-t'ung Shih-tai</a>, a semimonthly periodical for children; the circulation of this periodical has gradually increased to over 50,000. The Children's Dramatic Society sponsored by the China Welfare Society has been active for over 5 years as a literary and study group for children. Its performances have been warmly received by a great number of children as well as by adults. The Young Children's Library and the Young Children's Cultural Hall operated by the China Welfare Society are engaged in extracurricular cultural and educational services to young children.

In addition, in May 1952 the society founded an International Peace Hospital for Women and Children by merging two health clinics for women and children. The hospital was founded in honor of Madame Sun Yat-sen for her donation of money which she received from the Stalin Prize she won.

Another objective of the China Welfare Society has been to publicize current developments in relief, welfare, and reconstruction work performed by the society, by the China People's Relief Association, and by the Chinese people. For this purpose, it established the China Reconstruction Society, which is currently publishing an English semimonthly periodical China Reconstructs. During the past 10 years, the society has been reporting to the whole world concerning the struggles against imperialist aggression and against domestic fascism in which the Chinese people are engaged. The society's main office and its subsidiary organs are located in Shanghai.

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